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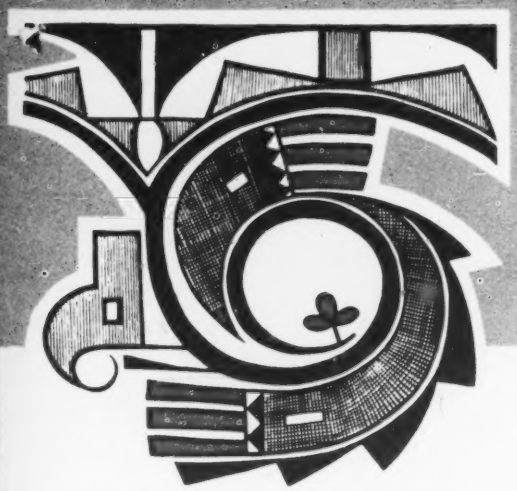

New Mexico Labor Market Review

GARREY CARRUTHERS, GOVERNOR
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT
Paul M. Garcia, Secretary
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The unemployment situation in New Mexico showed improvement in March, according to preliminary labor force estimates. The State's unemployment rate declined from 9.6 to 9.2 percent, and the number of jobless fell by 2,300 from February. New Mexico's jobless rate is now slightly below one year ago, a welcome comparison after the worsening unemployment experienced over the last two years. The U.S. unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) in March was 6.9 percent, down from the February rate of 7.2 percent.

Total nonagricultural payroll employment across the State grew by 3,900 jobs in March, with much of the additional workers in the construction, services and government sectors. Most of these increases are expected this time of year as warmer weather prevails and tourism begins to gain momentum for the approaching summer season. Industries such as eating and lodging places normally add several hundred jobs during this time of year.

The increase in government jobs was largely in the state sector as the various universities in New Mexico continued to add jobs (mostly part-time workstudy positions) for the spring semester.

Mining employment remained unchanged from February, a welcome relief from the drastic reductions seen in the industry in the last year. Manufacturing employment added a small number of jobs over the month, mostly in the transportation equipment area. Electronic equipment manufacturing lost 100 jobs in March, putting the industry about 300 jobs below the year ago level. Better times may be on the horizon for electronic equipment, however, as the U.S. semiconductor industry is showing signs of a rebound. In anticipation of this, Intel has announced plans to expand its manufacturing operations in Rio Rancho, with additional hiring of approximately 300 workers expected by mid-1988.

Nonfarm payroll employment in New Mexico is now 7,900 or a rather meager 1.5 percent above one year ago. Much of this growth has occurred in the large trade and services industries, with increases of 2.7 and 4.4 percent respectively. Three major industries have lost employment since last March; mining has plummeted by 3,000 jobs or 17 percent, construction is down by 800, and transportation & utilities has 600 fewer jobs than one year ago.

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Mar. 1987	Feb. 1987	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1987	Mar. 1986
Civilian Labor Force	674,600	668,700	660,500	+5,900	+14,100
Employment	612,400	604,200	598,500	+8,200	+13,900
Unemployment	62,200	64,500	62,000	-2,300	+ 200
Rate	9.2%	9.6%	9.4%		

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

NEW MEXICO	PRELIM MAR 1987	REVISED FEB 1987	REVISED MAR 1986	MAR CHANGE FROM FEB 1987	MAR CHANGE FROM MAR 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	531,200	527,300	523,300	3,900	7,900
MINING	14,700	14,700	17,700	0	-3,000
Metal Mining	1,900	1,900	2,300	0	-400
Bituminous Coal, Quarrying etc	3,900	3,900	4,000	0	-100
Oil & Gas Extraction	8,900	8,900	11,400	0	-2,500
CONSTRUCTION	33,400	32,600	34,200	800	-800
MANUFACTURING	37,100	37,000	36,500	100	600
DURABLE GOODS	24,100	24,000	24,000	100	100
Lumber & Wood Products	2,600	2,600	2,400	0	200
Machinery(except electric)	2,400	2,400	2,700	0	-300
Elec & Electronic Equip	4,300	4,400	4,600	-100	-300
Transportation Equipment	4,300	4,100	4,000	200	300
Other Durable Goods	10,500	10,500	10,300	0	200
NONDURABLE GOODS	13,000	13,000	12,500	0	500
Food & Kindred Products	4,100	4,100	3,800	0	300
Textile & Apparel	2,400	2,400	2,400	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	6,500	6,500	6,300	0	200
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	28,900	28,800	29,500	100	-600
TRANSPORTATION	12,900	12,700	12,700	200	200
Railroad Transportation	2,100	2,100	2,300	0	-200
Trucking & Warehousing	6,000	5,800	5,900	200	100
Other Transportation	4,800	4,800	4,500	0	300
COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	16,000	16,100	16,800	-100	-800
Communication	6,700	6,700	7,100	0	-400
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	9,300	9,400	9,700	-100	-400
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	126,300	126,100	123,000	200	3,300
WHOLESALE TRADE	22,400	22,300	22,600	100	-200
Durable Goods	13,400	13,300	13,300	100	100
Nondurable Goods	9,000	9,000	9,300	0	-300
RETAIL TRADE	103,900	103,800	100,400	100	3,500
Bldg Material & Mobile Homes	4,300	4,200	4,400	100	-100
General Merchandise Stores	12,000	12,000	11,300	0	700
Food Stores	15,600	15,900	14,700	-300	900
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	13,200	13,100	12,800	100	400
Apparel & Accessories	5,300	5,300	5,300	0	0
Furniture & Furnishing	4,500	4,500	4,300	0	200
Eating & Drinking Places	37,000	36,800	36,100	200	900
Miscellaneous Retail	12,000	12,000	11,500	0	500
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	27,000	26,900	26,400	100	600
Banking	8,000	8,000	8,200	0	-200
Insurance Carriers	3,800	3,800	3,500	0	300
Insur Agents, Brokers & Service	2,900	2,900	2,800	0	100
Real Estate	6,300	6,200	6,100	100	200
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	6,000	6,000	5,800	0	200
SERVICES	121,100	119,900	116,000	1,200	5,100
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	11,500	11,200	10,400	300	1,100
Personal Services	6,100	6,200	5,900	-100	200
Business Services	28,400	27,900	27,700	500	700
Health Services	30,200	29,900	28,500	300	1,700
Legal Services	4,100	4,100	3,900	0	200
Educational Services	5,300	5,300	5,200	0	100
Social Services	6,400	6,200	7,100	200	-700
Membership Organizations	6,300	6,200	5,600	100	700
Other Services	22,800	22,900	21,700	-100	1,100
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	142,700	141,300	140,000	1,400	2,700
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	30,500	30,200	29,900	300	600
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	112,200	111,100	110,100	1,100	2,100
State Government 2/	52,500	51,600	51,800	900	700
Local Government	59,700	59,500	58,300	200	1,400

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

2/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

ALBUQUERQUE AREA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)

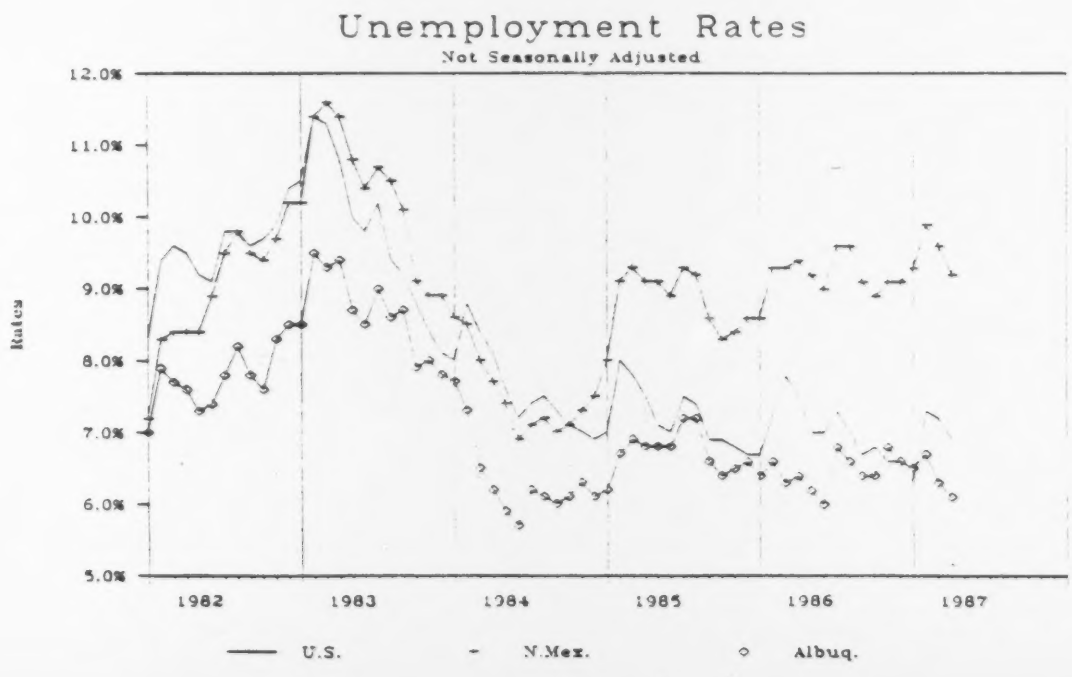
According to preliminary labor force estimates, the Albuquerque area unemployment situation improved somewhat between February and March. The unemployment rate fell to 6.1 percent from February's level of 6.3 percent, as unemployment dipped slightly while employment rose by considerably more than the seasonally expected amount.

The number of nonagricultural wage and salary jobs in the Albuquerque area rose by 2,300 between February and March. State government contributed a major portion of this greater-than-normal movement as the university continued to add workers for the spring semester. Within other industrial divisions, the largest gains were seasonal in nature, as the construction industry responded to warmer weather with increased activity and eating & drinking places began its annual buildup toward the summer peak. On the down side, general merchandise stores reduced payrolls in a normal seasonal move, while food stores and firms categorized under "other services" cut employment in response to slackened demand.

Nonagricultural payroll employment now stands 6,700 jobs higher than one year ago, a gain of only three percent over the year. However, notable job gains are seen in certain sectors when March 1987 is compared to March 1986. Establishments in health services and motor freight & warehousing have added many new workers during the year. Eating & drinking places and lodging places are both up strongly over the year, reflecting the opening of several new establishments. The solid advance shown in construction is concentrated in building construction; however, it should be remembered that the year-ago figure reflects an abnormal recession occurring in the construction industry at that time. Total manufacturing employment has not risen at all since a year ago; within the division, job gains in transportation equipment, professional & scientific instruments, and printing & publishing have been countered by losses in fabricated metal, stone, clay, & glass, and food.

MARCH SUMMARY

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Mar. 1987	Feb. 1987	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1987	Mar. 1986
Civilian Labor Force	259,200	256,800	249,600	+2,400	+9,600
Employment	243,300	240,600	233,600	+2,700	+9,700
Unemployment	15,900	16,200	16,000	- 300	- 100
Rate	6.1%	6.3%	6.4%		



ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

ALBUQUERQUE MSA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)	PRELIM MAR 1987	REVISED FEB 1987	REVISED MAR 1986	MAR CHANGE FROM FEB 1987	MAR CHANGE FROM MAR 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	231,100	228,800	224,400	2,300	6,700
MINING	200	200	200	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	16,900	16,300	16,100	600	800
MANUFACTURING	19,300	19,300	19,300	0	0
Durable Goods	13,900	13,900	13,900	0	0
Nondurable Goods	5,400	5,400	5,400	0	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	12,500	12,400	12,200	100	300
Transportation	6,100	6,000	5,800	100	300
Communication	3,800	3,800	3,800	0	0
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	58,500	58,400	56,600	100	1,900
WHOLESALE TRADE	14,200	14,100	14,100	100	100
Durable Goods	9,700	9,600	9,500	100	200
Nondurable Goods	4,500	4,500	4,600	0	-100
RETAIL TRADE	44,300	44,300	42,500	0	1,800
General Merchandise Stores	4,700	4,800	4,600	-100	100
Food Stores	4,900	5,100	4,800	-200	100
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	4,800	4,800	4,700	0	100
Eating & Drinking Places	17,200	16,900	16,200	300	1,000
Other Retail Trade	12,700	12,700	12,200	0	500
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	14,600	14,400	14,000	200	600
Banking	3,200	3,100	3,200	100	0
Ins Carriers, Agents & Brokers	4,200	4,200	3,900	0	300
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	7,200	7,100	6,900	100	300
SERVICES	63,300	62,900	60,500	400	2,800
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	3,900	3,800	3,500	100	400
Personal Services	3,300	3,300	3,100	0	200
Business Services	20,400	20,200	19,800	200	600
Health Services	14,600	14,400	13,700	200	900
Social Services	2,900	2,900	2,900	0	0
Membership Organizations	1,700	1,600	1,800	100	-100
Other Services	16,500	16,700	15,700	-200	800
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	45,800	44,900	45,500	900	300
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	13,200	13,100	12,700	100	500
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	32,600	31,800	32,800	800	-200
State Government	13,000	12,300	13,700	700	-700
Local Government	19,500	19,500	19,100	100	500

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

LAS CRUCES MSA (DONA ANA COUNTY) 1/	PRELIM MAR 1987	REVISED FEB 1987	REVISED MAR 1986	MAR CHANGE FROM FEB 1987	MAR CHANGE FROM MAR 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	41,200	40,900	39,400	300	1,800
MINING	50	50	50	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2,700	2,600	2,600	100	100
MANUFACTURING	3,100	3,050	3,100	50	0
Durable Goods	1,200	1,150	1,200	50	0
Nondurable Goods	1,900	1,900	1,900	0	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,350	1,350	1,350	0	0
Transportation	500	500	500	0	0
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	850	850	850	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	7,600	7,700	7,500	-100	100
WHOLESALE TRADE	800	850	850	-50	-50
RETAIL TRADE	6,800	6,850	6,650	-50	150
General Merchandise Stores	850	900	800	-50	50
Food Stores	1,050	1,050	1,000	0	50
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	850	850	850	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0
Other Retail Trade	1,450	1,450	1,400	0	50
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	1,600	1,550	1,550	50	50
SERVICES	6,100	6,100	5,550	0	550
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	750	750	500	0	250
Business Services	1,150	1,150	950	0	200
Health Services	1,650	1,650	1,450	0	200
Social Services	250	250	250	0	0
Other Services	2,300	2,300	2,400	0	-100
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	18,700	18,500	17,700	200	1,000
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	4,400	4,300	4,500	100	-100
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	14,300	14,200	13,200	100	1,100
State Government	9,100	9,000	8,100	100	1,000
Local Government	5,200	5,200	5,100	0	100

SANTA FE MSA (SANTA FE & LOS ALAMOS COUNTIES) 1/	PRELIM MAR 1987	REVISED FEB 1987	REVISED MAR 1986	MAR CHANGE FROM FEB 1987	MAR CHANGE FROM MAR 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	54,050	53,450	51,150	600	2,900
MINING	100	100	150	0	-50
CONSTRUCTION	3,100	3,100	2,800	0	300
MANUFACTURING	1,600	1,600	1,550	0	50
Durable Goods	1,000	1,000	950	0	50
Nondurable Goods	600	600	600	0	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,150	1,150	1,300	0	-150
Transportation	400	400	400	0	0
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	750	750	900	0	-150
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	10,400	10,450	9,550	-50	850
WHOLESALE TRADE	700	700	650	0	50
RETAIL TRADE	9,700	9,750	8,900	-50	800
General Merchandise Stores	900	900	800	0	100
Food Stores	1,800	1,850	1,250	-50	550
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	800	800	850	0	-50
Eating & Drinking Places	3,600	3,600	3,600	0	0
Other Retail Trade	2,600	2,600	2,400	0	200
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	2,200	2,100	1,950	100	250
SERVICES	13,500	13,150	12,750	350	750
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	1,700	1,700	1,550	0	150
Business Services	3,100	3,000	3,100	100	0
Health Services	3,000	3,000	2,900	0	100
Social Services	600	550	600	50	0
Other Services	5,100	4,900	4,600	200	500
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	22,000	21,800	21,100	200	900
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	20,500	20,300	19,600	200	900
State Government 3/	16,500	16,300	15,900	200	600
Local Government	4,000	4,000	3,700	0	300

1/ In accordance with the CES Manual, those published cells with less than 2,000 employees are rounded to nearest 50. Those published cells with more than 2,000 employees are rounded to 100.
2/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.
3/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS

Hours and Earnings of Production, Construction and Nonsupervisory Employees
(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
NEW MEXICO	MAR 1987	FEB 1987	MAR 1986	MAR 1987	FEB 1987	MAR 1986	MAR 1987	FEB 1987	MAR 1986
MINING	$498.00	$492.07	$493.14	41.5	40.6	39.2	12.00	12.12	12.58
CONSTRUCTION	$402.04	$405.08	$394.13	38.0	38.0	35.7	10.58	10.66	11.04
MANUFACTURING	$345.42	$339.86	$347.21	40.4	39.2	39.5	8.55	8.67	8.79
Durable Goods	$354.85	$351.43	$346.14	41.6	39.8	39.2	8.53	8.83	8.83
Nondurable Goods	$308.51	$315.78	$349.27	37.9	38.0	40.1	8.14	8.31	8.71
COMMUNICATION & UTILITIES	$545.92	$553.25	$504.18	40.2	40.8	42.8	13.58	13.56	11.78
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	$219.93	$219.79	$214.56	32.2	31.9	31.6	6.83	6.89	6.79
Wholesale Trade	$395.21	$386.88	$378.95	39.8	39.0	40.4	9.93	9.92	9.38
Retail Trade	$188.19	$187.58	$182.09	30.7	30.5	29.9	6.13	6.15	6.09
BANKING	$241.72	$241.59	$235.07	40.9	40.4	40.6	5.91	5.98	5.79
ALBUQUERQUE MSA	MAR 1987	FEB 1987	MAR 1986	MAR 1987	FEB 1987	MAR 1986	MAR 1987	FEB 1987	MAR 1986
MANUFACTURING	$369.65	$367.08	$342.14	40.8	39.9	39.6	9.06	9.20	8.64
Durable Goods	$379.55	$375.74	$356.57	41.3	40.1	40.2	9.19	9.37	8.87
Nondurable Goods	$336.96	$337.35	$299.41	39.0	39.0	37.9	8.64	8.65	7.90

NOTE: Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded. The average earnings are "gross" reflecting not only changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates but also such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differentials. The work week information relates to the average hours for which pay was received, and is different from standard or scheduled hours due to absenteeism, labor turnover, part time work, overtime work etc.

AREA ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

ALBUQUERQUE AREA: Lovelace Medical Center laid off 93 employees in late March. The employees who were laid off represent approximately 4 percent of the hospital's workforce. Low hospital occupancy was cited as the main reason for the layoffs. Seven Bar Airport has closed after 40 years in business. The airport shut down after the high cost of land in the area made it economically unfeasible to maintain operations. BDM Corp. has started building a 160,000-square-foot addition to its Albuquerque research and development complex. The $22 million project will nearly double the existing facility, and increase the work force by approximately 250 employees. The expansion is scheduled to be completed in May of 1988. Work is scheduled to began on a $2 million retail center in Rio Rancho. The 32,000-square-foot center will be located at the corner of Southern Boulevard and Western Hills Drive. Pacific Realty Corp. is seeking city approval for The Village at Renaissance, a 12-acre apartment complex that will include six buildings with 334 units. The apartment complex will be the first project of the 240-acre Renaissance Center at I-25 and Montano. Construction has begun on a $2.2 million Mazda dealership at Ellison and I-25. An Albuquerque developer plans to start construction on a large office and retail center southeast of the intersection of Wyoming and Academy. The new center will be called Sycamore Plaza and will be situated on 65 acres. The initial phase of the center will contain 64,000 square feet of office space and should be completed by late November. AmeriWest Campbell Ranch project, a proposed residential development on North 14 east of Albuquerque, may now include 80 acres for a high tech research and development facility. Construction on the development, which will include 1,400 units on 3,600 acres, is not scheduled to start until the summer of 1988. A 12-screen movie theater with total seating

capacity of 2,800 is scheduled to open May 20 in the Four Hills Shopping Center.

ALAMOGORDO / RUIDOSO AREA: A Hobbs firm, Estacado Inc., has proposed constructing a $2.5 million gas pipeline from Corona to Ruidoso to feed the Ruidoso area. The State Public Service Commission must rule favorably on proposed increased gas rates before the pipeline project can be undertaken. Ski Apache closed its facilities for the season in mid-April, resulting in the layoff of about 250 workers. Ruidoso Downs is scheduled to open for the 1987 racing season in early May.

CARLSBAD / ARTESIA AREA: Brantley Dam, which is 75% complete, faces a temporary shutdown unless a $6 million shortfall in funding can be found to finance the project through the current fiscal year. Without a shutdown, Brantley Dam should be completed in mid-1988, with a lake and 1,000 acre park open to the public in early 1989. Monterey Construction, the contractor for Brantley Dam, currently employs about 400 workers on the project. Recent progress reports for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant show 600 workers at the site. Rose Gravel Company officials have announced plans to scale down operations, resulting in the layoff of about 50 workers. According to company officials, much of the firm's equipment will be "mothballed until improved economic conditions return".

DEMING / LORDSBURG AREA: An Arizona housing manufacturer has announced plans to locate a plant in Lordsburg which could employ up to 100 workers. R. A. Bangerter, owner of Golden Eagle Manufacturing Company, plans to manufacture moveable housing and metal structures such as water tanks at the Lordsburg facility. A timetable for construction of the facilities was not disclosed. A Taiwanese car radio manufacturer, Autotek Inc., plans to locate a small twin plant operation in the Columbus International Industrial Park, located on the U.S.- Mexico border south of Deming. Construction on the facility, which will employ about 30 persons on the Mexican side and 15 in the U.S., could begin as soon as this June, according to company officials.

FARMINGTON AREA: Okanagan Dried Fruits, a fruit processing company from British Columbia, has decided to open a branch in Farmington. The branch will employ 30 to 40 people and will process 4 to 5 million pounds of dried fruit annually.

GALLUP / GRANTS AREA: Giant Industries Inc. has completed a $12 million isomerization unit at its Ciniza Refinery. The unit is only the fourth of its kind in the country and will produce 5,000 barrels of unleaded gasoline per day. The Navajo Tribe will receive federal funding in excess of $98 million for the 1987 fiscal year. The funds are for road construction and repair, building and renovation of hospitals, an irrigation project, and job training funds. New facilities for Crownpoint Indian Hospital are scheduled to open on May 4. A total of 57 new members will be added to the current hospital staff of 114. Utah International Inc. is using vacation shutdowns to save jobs at three of its northwestern New Mexico coal operations. About 850 employees will be affected by the shutdowns which will total approximately 5 weeks in length. A contract will be awarded late this spring to convert Gallup's old railroad depot into a transportation center. The depot would be a stop for buses, Amtrak passengers, taxis and package service.

HOBBS / LOVINGTON AREA: Hobbs has been selected as the site of the state fire training school for 1987. Approximately 900 firefighters from across the state will convene at various sites in Hobbs, including at New Mexico Junior College, for one week this August. Community leaders estimate that the training will bring approximately $1 million into the area economy. Hobbs schools face a $1 million loss in funds for the 1987/88 school year due to declining enrollment, according to school officials. The funding loss is expected to equate to a

reduction of about 30 jobs in the school system. Late March oil drilling rig activity in the Permian Basin showed a total of 122 operating rigs, compared with 156 rigs in operation in the same period in 1986.

LAS CRUCES AREA: The Dona Ana County Planning and Zoning Commission approved plans in late March for a U.S.- Mexico border crossing near Santa Teresa which will be used initially for the transportation of cattle. Present plans for the crossing facilities include building more than 100 pens and corrals to handle the 150,000 cattle per year anticipated to come through the crossing. Fluor Constructors, the contractor for the huge Strategic Defense Initiative laser facility to be located at White Sands Missile Range, has established temporary offices in Las Cruces employing about 20 persons. Fluor Constructors, of Irvine, CA, received a $197 million contract in March to build the laser's technical and support facilities. Fluor plans to spend about $6 million on the project this year completing site preparation and communications services. The project is expected to employ up to 1,500 workers when fully underway. The first phase of the laser project is expected to be completed by early 1990. Borman Ford in Las Cruces received a building permit in April for the construction of a $940,000 garage, repair shop and showroom facility. The Mesilla Valley Hospital opened its doors in April; the 30-bed psychiatric facility encompasses 24,000 square-feet.

LOS ALAMOS AREA: Of the 146 Los Alamos Lab employees scheduled to be laid off during April only 66 were let go. The remaining 80 employees either retired or found other jobs within the laboratory. The reduction-in-force, along with a hiring freeze, may be enough to enable the lab to meet its FY 88 budget. After the current external hiring freeze is lifted, hiring at the lab will be limited to replacing the natural attrition of about 3 percent per year, or about 200 to 300 employees annually.

ROSWELL AREA: Transportation Manufacturing Corporation (TMC) officials announced plans to move manufacturing divisions currently located in Michigan to Roswell, joining TMC's greyhound bus division located in the Roswell Industrial Air Park. The size of the Roswell plant's workforce will depend on demand for buses; however, approximately 500 workers could be added to the firm's current 1,000 payroll. TMC will construct a new 200,00-square-foot building to handle the new production line. As an incentive to locate the plant in Roswell, the State of New Mexico will purchase approximately $20 million in severance tax bonds to finance the TMC plant expansion. Employment at the Levi Strauss apparel plant in Roswell has increased by approximately 150 in recent months due to expanded demand for the firm's products. According to Levi officials, the Roswell plant's current production of 90,000 pairs of pants per week is the highest in its 21-year history.

SANTA FE AREA: Construction has begun on a 71,800 square-foot Sears department store in the Villa Linda Mall. Sears officials are predicting a September 16 opening for the store which is expected to cost nearly $3 million to build. Construction has begun on a new campus for Santa Fe community college; an Albuquerque corporation was awarded the $11.1 million dollar contract. The city has recommended approval for a proposed 7.8-acre convalescent center and medical research facility. The facility, located on St. Michael's Drive, will have outpatient services as well as between 20 and 25 hospital beds.

SILVER CITY AREA: Phelps Dodge is planning a 20 percent increase in capacity for the solvent extraction-electrowinning plant at the Tyrone copper mine. Phelps Dodge is also considering locating an SW-EW plant at its Chino Mines property.

TUCUMCARI AREA: Mountain States Construction is continuing work on a $1 million street project in Tucumcari and repavement work on Interstate 40.

THE IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT

The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA) will have an impact on every employer, both large and small, in America. The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) is in the process of preparing the final version of the regulations and other material to implement this law. Meanwhile, what follows is an informal summary of some of the major impacts on, and responsibilities of, employers under the new legislation as it now stands.

The INS suggests that from now until June 1, 1987 employers should inform each new job applicant, either in writing or verbally, that all new employees will be required to complete the designated employer verification forms. These forms will be available by June 1, 1987.

Under the new legislation employers are responsible, beginning June 1, 1987, for verifying the legal status of employees hired on or after November 7, 1986 providing that the employee is still working for the employer as of June 1, 1987. There is no requirement to verify the status of employees hired before November 7, 1986 but the employer should be aware that the fact that an illegal alien was on the payroll before November 7, 1986 does not grant him or her the legal right to remain in the U.S. He or she is still subject to apprehension and removal. Once apprehended, the illegal alien has 30 days in which to apply for legal status.

After June 1, 1987 employers should:

1) Continue to inform each new job applicant that he/she will, if hired, have to complete the verification form designated by INS to certify that they are eligible for employment.

2) Require all new employees to complete and sign the verification form.

3) Examine the documentation presented by new employees, determine to the best of their knowledge and belief that the documents are valid, record information from the documents on the verification form, and sign the form. (Note: the verification form must be completed within three days of the date the employee was hired.)

4) Retain the verification form and copies of all documents which establish identity/employment authorization for three years or for one year after termination of that person's employment, whichever is longer.

5) If requested, present the form for inspection by INS or Dept. of Labor officers within three days of the request.

The period from June 1, 1987 to May 31, 1988 has been designated as a Warning Period. During this time a warning will be issued to an employer for a first offense regarding the hiring, recruiting or referring for a fee of any unauthorized alien. Subsequent offenses may result in fines. However, the first-offense warning does <u>not</u> apply to the law's record-keeping provisions. Starting on June 1, 1988 all employer sanctions are in full effect, including civil penalties up to $10,000 for each unauthorized alien.

Under the new immigration legislation some illegal aliens may qualify for the following programs:

- Legalization program. If the alien has not been out of the United States for more than 45 days at one time, 180 days total, since January 1, 1982 then they may apply for legal resident status beginning May 5, 1987 until May 4, 1988.

- Seasonal Agricultural Workers program (SAW). Two groups of workers employed in the perishable agricultural commodities industry are eligible to apply for legal resident status under the SAW program.

  Group 1. A maximum of 350,000 illegal aliens may apply for status as temporary residents if they have worked in this industry in the U.S. for at least 90 days a year for 3 years between May 1, 1983 and May 1, 1986. After 1 year of temporary status this group may apply for adjustment to permanent resident status.

  Group 2. An uncapped number of illegal aliens employed in this industry in the U.S. for at least 90 days between May 1, 1985 and May 1, 1986 may apply for status as temporary residents. After 2 years of temporary status this group may apply for adjustment to permanent resident status.

More detailed information and forms will be available in the near future. In addition, workshops and seminars for New Mexico employers, such as the one held at the Albuquerque Convention Center on April 22, 1987 with 195 employers and government personnel in attendance, will be conducted in various locations throughout the state to help New Mexico employers stay well informed on all aspects of the new immigration law.

For further information contact:

Immigration and Naturalization Service
1900 Bridge Blvd. SW
Albuquerque, NM 87105

Immigration and Naturalization Service
425 Eye Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20536
Attn. Employer Facts

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NEW WAGE SURVEY FOR ALBUQUERQUE AREA IS NOW AVAILABLE

The 1987 Albuquerque Small Employer Wage Survey is now available from the New Mexico Employment Security Department. This year's survey lists entry, average, high, and low salaries for 110 occupations at approximately 700 companies in the Albuquerque area which employ between 20 and 100 workers. Copies of the wage survey may be obtained free of charge by calling (505) 841-8645 or by writing to the following address:

New Mexico Employment Security Department
Bureau of Economic Research and Analysis
P.O. Box 1928
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

NEW MEXICO LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES 1/

	PRELIMINARY MARCH 1987				REVISED FEBRUARY 1987				REVISED MARCH 1986			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	674,637	612,425	62,212	9.2%	668,694	604,242	64,452	9.6%	660,471	598,460	62,011	9.4%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 2/	259,202	243,308	15,894	6.1%	256,759	240,584	16,175	6.3%	249,561	233,573	15,988	6.4%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	55,839	51,843	3,996	7.2%	54,733	50,853	3,880	7.1%	53,037	48,935	4,102	7.7%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	64,642	60,827	3,815	5.9%	63,409	59,417	3,992	6.3%	61,290	57,747	3,543	5.8%
Catron	1,138	884	254	22.3%	1,153	922	231	20.0%	998	761	237	23.7%
Chaves	22,369	20,214	2,155	9.6%	22,439	20,020	2,419	10.8%	22,210	19,878	2,332	10.5%
Cibola	8,490	7,060	1,430	16.8%	8,430	6,909	1,521	18.0%	8,695	6,936	1,759	20.2%
Colfax	6,524	5,571	953	14.6%	6,512	5,514	998	15.3%	6,744	5,848	896	13.3%
Curry	17,408	16,016	1,392	8.0%	17,327	15,884	1,443	8.3%	17,013	15,790	1,223	7.2%
De Baca	900	796	104	11.6%	833	733	100	12.0%	927	784	143	15.4%
Eddy	21,398	18,721	2,677	12.5%	21,537	18,686	2,851	13.2%	22,216	19,166	3,050	13.7%
Grant	9,676	8,590	1,086	11.2%	9,754	8,601	1,153	11.8%	9,643	8,405	1,238	12.8%
Guadalupe	1,659	1,323	336	20.3%	1,619	1,264	355	21.9%	1,605	1,325	280	17.4%
Harding	416	358	58	13.9%	399	352	47	11.8%	417	356	61	14.6%
Hidalgo	2,354	2,216	138	5.9%	2,350	2,205	145	6.2%	2,511	2,345	166	6.6%
Lea	23,286	20,434	2,852	12.2%	23,699	20,695	3,004	12.7%	25,992	23,606	2,386	9.2%
Lincoln	6,448	5,858	590	9.2%	6,568	5,909	659	10.0%	6,558	5,987	571	8.7%
Luna	5,556	4,678	878	15.8%	5,584	4,663	921	16.5%	5,396	4,527	869	16.1%
McKinley	16,758	14,444	2,314	13.8%	16,882	14,451	2,431	14.4%	17,170	14,915	2,255	13.1%
Mora	1,166	707	459	39.4%	1,168	690	478	40.9%	1,380	801	579	42.0%
Otero	18,237	16,792	1,445	7.9%	18,026	16,514	1,512	8.4%	17,432	15,928	1,504	8.6%
Quay	4,382	3,980	402	9.2%	4,371	3,942	429	9.8%	4,381	3,966	415	9.5%
Rio Arriba	13,736	10,549	3,187	23.2%	13,454	10,160	3,294	24.5%	13,314	10,237	3,077	23.1%
Roosevelt	7,355	6,951	404	5.5%	7,158	6,764	394	5.5%	7,217	6,820	397	5.5%
Sandoval	22,307	20,387	1,920	8.6%	21,764	19,676	2,088	9.6%	21,080	19,138	1,942	9.2%
San Juan	34,748	28,642	6,106	17.6%	34,877	28,468	6,409	18.4%	35,355	29,770	5,585	15.8%
San Miguel	10,085	8,665	1,420	14.1%	9,689	8,213	1,476	15.2%	10,208	8,778	1,430	14.0%
Sierra	2,428	2,197	231	9.5%	2,478	2,213	265	10.7%	2,359	2,173	186	7.9%
Socorro	5,798	5,227	571	9.8%	5,834	5,226	608	10.4%	5,797	5,267	530	9.1%
Taos	10,190	7,188	3,002	29.5%	10,056	7,121	2,935	29.2%	10,937	7,721	3,216	29.4%
Torrance	3,163	2,767	396	12.5%	3,126	2,708	418	13.4%	3,112	2,689	423	13.6%
Union	1,864	1,706	158	8.5%	1,867	1,685	182	9.7%	2,023	1,823	200	9.9%
Valencia	15,115	13,526	1,589	10.5%	14,839	13,200	1,639	11.0%	13,893	12,465	1,428	10.3%

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Dona Ana County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

New Mexico Employment Security Department
Economic Research and Analysis (CC 6097)
P.O. Box 1928
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

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U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

	Mar. 1987	Feb. 1987	Mar. 1986	Percent Change Feb.'87-Mar.'87	Percent Change Mar.'86-Mar.'87
CPI-U	335.9	334.4	326.0	+0.4%	+3.0%
CPI-W	330.5	329.0	321.4	+0.5%	+2.8%

Index Base Year 1967 = 100

CPI-U - All Urban Consumers
CPI-W - Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics